

10/584493

IAP2 Rec'd PCT/PTO 22 JUN 2006

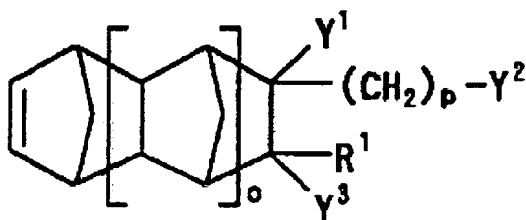
**THE FOLLOWING ARE THE ENGLISH TRANSLATION  
OF ANNEXES TO THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT (ARTICLE 34):**

**Amended Sheets (Pages 46-48 and 48a filed on January 20, 2006)**

## CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A thermoplastic elastomer composition comprising a thermoplastic resin having a polar group and an ethylene- $\alpha$ -olefin elastomer having a functional group, wherein the ethylene- $\alpha$ -olefin elastomer having the functional group is a random copolymer obtained by copolymerizing ethylene, an  $\alpha$ -olefin having 3 to 10 carbon atoms, an unsaturated monomer having the functional group composed of a functional cyclic compound represented by the following general formula (1) and an optional non-conjugated diene, and the thermoplastic resin having the polar group and the ethylene- $\alpha$ -olefin elastomer having the functional group are crosslinked by a method of conducting a dynamic heat treatment in the presence of a crosslinking agent selected from organic peroxides, phenol resin crosslinking agents, sulfur, sulfur compounds, p-quinone, p-quinone dioxime derivatives, bismaleimide compounds, epoxy compounds, silane compounds, amino resins, polyol crosslinking agents, polyamines and triazine compounds.

General Formula (1)



[In the general formula (1),  $R^1$  is a hydrogen atom or a hydrocarbon group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms,  $Y^1$ ,  $Y^2$  and  $Y^3$  are, independently of one another, a hydrogen atom, a hydrocarbon group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms or  $-COOH$ , with the proviso that at least one of  $Y^1$ ,  $Y^2$  and  $Y^3$  is  $-COOH$ , and when at least two of  $Y^1$ ,  $Y^2$  and  $Y^3$  are  $-COOH$ , they may be bonded to each other to form an acid anhydride  $(-CO-(O)-CO-)$ ,  $o$  is an integer of 0 to 2, and  $p$  is an integer of 0 to 5.

2. (Deleted)
3. (Deleted)
4. (Amended) The thermoplastic elastomer composition according to claim 1, wherein the ethylene· $\alpha$ -olefin elastomer having the functional group is a random copolymer obtained by copolymerizing 35 to 94.99 mol% of ethylene, 5 to 50 mol% of the  $\alpha$ -olefin having 3 to 10 carbon atoms, 0.01 to 5 mol% of the unsaturated monomer having the functional group and 0 to 10 mol% of the non-conjugated diene.
5. (Deleted)
6. (Amended) The thermoplastic elastomer composition according to claim 1 or 4, wherein the thermoplastic resin having the polar group is at least one resin selected from the group consisting of aminoacrylamide polymers, ethylene·vinyl acetate copolymers, polyethylene oxide, ethylene·acrylic acid copolymers, acrylonitrile·butadiene·styrene terpolymers,

acrylonitrile·chlorinated polyethylene· ethylene terpolymers, acrylonitrile·styrene copolymers, acrylonitrile·styrene·acrylate resins, acrylic resins, methacrylic resins, polyamide resins, polycarbonate, vinyl alcohol resins, vinyl acetal resins, methyl methacrylate resins, polyether resins, polyester resins and polyacrylates.

7. (Amended) The thermoplastic elastomer composition according to any one of claims 1, 4 and 6, wherein a proportion of the thermoplastic resin having the polar group to the ethylene· $\alpha$ -olefin elastomer having the functional group is 5:95 to 90:10 in terms of a weight ratio.
8. (Amended) The thermoplastic elastomer composition according to any one of claims 1, 4, 6 and 7, wherein a softening agent is contained in a proportion of 0 to 200 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of the total of the thermoplastic resin having the polar group and the ethylene· $\alpha$ -olefin elastomer having the functional group.
9. (Amended) A process for preparing the thermoplastic elastomer composition according to any one of claims 1, 4 and 6 to 8, the process comprising the step of subjecting a thermoplastic resin having a polar group and an ethylene· $\alpha$ -olefin elastomer having a functional group to a dynamic heat treatment in the presence of a crosslinking agent selected from

organic peroxides, phenol resin crosslinking agents, sulfur, sulfur compounds, p-quinone, p-quinone dioxime derivatives, bismaleimide compounds, epoxy compounds, silane compounds, amino resins, polyol crosslinking agents, polyamines and triazine compounds.

10. (Amended) A molded or formed product formed of the thermoplastic elastomer composition according to any one of claims 1, 4 and 6 to 8.